(d) On the basis of a decision taken in the meeting of Karya Karini Upa Samiti of Hindi Shiksha Samiti held on 15-9-1983, a Sub-Committee was constituted to examine the proposal of the establishment of the Vishwa Hindi Vidyapeeth. At the time of inauguration of the Third World Hindi Conference, the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi had referred about this sub-committee in her inaugural speech on 28-10-1983.

3403. [Transferred *to the* 30th March, 1989].

Road mishaps in India

3402. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA;

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of the dead and injured in road mishaps in the country in each of the last three years; whether India's average rate of accidents is very high in the world, proportionate to the number of vehicles in the country; in what manner it compares with the accident rates in the world;

(b) what are the reasons for India's high rate of mishaps;

(c) what steps have been taken since independence to ensure safety on roads in the country; and

(d) what have been the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The total number of persons killed and injured in Road Accidents during the last three years are as under: —

year	Persons Killed	Persons injured
1986 . .	40,000	1,75,700
1987 . .	42,900	1,83,300
1988 (Provisional) .	46,600	1,91,800

According to the latest comparable figures available, the rate of persons killed per thousand vehicles in India works out to 4.27 as compared to 0.3 for U.K., 0.4 for France and 4.4 for South Korea and 6.3 for Pakistan.

(b) The analysis of accidents data reveals that the main factors responsible for road accidents are human failure, driver's fault, mechanical defects in vehicles, bad roads and hetrogeneous mix of vehicles, in growing numbers, consisting of extremely slow moving to high speed vehicles, operating on limited road capacity.

(c) and (d) The Central Government, from time to time, has written to the State Governments to ensure strict control in the matter of issue of driving licences, grant of fitness certificates to vehicles etc. State Government have also been asked to make suitable provision in their respective M. V. rules for use of safety devices like speed-governors, compulsory fitment of indicators, auto-dippers etc. Besides this, they have also been requested to set up driver training schools to impart training to the applicants of driving licences. The new Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 being brought into force soon, provides for driver training as a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles. Provisions designed to promote road safety include establishing road safety councils at National and State levels, prescribing qualifications for officers of Motor Vehicles Deptt. of the States, maintenance of State Register for driving licence and for registered motor vehicles, establishing Truck Parking Complexes along Highways etc.

Road Safety Weeks are organised to bring in public awareness in respect of observance of road discipline. Road Safety Week was last year observed during 6—12 June, 1988, another road safety week is scheduled from 3rd to 9th April, 1989.